#### REVELATION

Celebration in Heaven (Revelation 19:1~6, 10)

Revelation 18:20: Rejoice O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, for God has given judgment for you against her!

The mourning on earth in Revelation 18:9-19 contrasts sharply with the rejoicing in heaven in Revelation 19.

Revelation 19:1-10: After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants." Once more they cried out, "Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up forever and ever." And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who was seated on the throne, saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!"

And from the throne came a voice saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great." Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God." Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God." For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

We should glorify God for His character and works, including His righteous judgments.

- A. Heaven praises God with a hallelujah chorus.
  - ❖Verses 1-6 use the word "hallelujah" four times (the only four times in the New Testament).
  - Often hallelujah is used in praise to God for His judgment.
  - \*Psalm 104:35: Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord!

- B. In praising God for His judgment, God's justice in judgment is emphasized.
  - 1. Praising God for His judgment is really praising Him for His justice.
  - ❖ Ezekiel 33:11: Say to them, "As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?"

- B. In praising God for His judgment, God's justice in judgment is emphasized.
  - \*God's judgment is the just and right response to the unrepentance of the wicked.
  - \*Revelation 19:2: For his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants.

- B. In praising God for His judgment, God's justice in judgment is emphasized.
  - Unbelievers on earth are repeatedly warned of coming judgment, yet they reject God and refuse to repent.
  - \*God has been patient and merciful, and He is shown to be just when He does finally judge.

- B. In praising God for His judgment, God's justice in judgment is emphasized.
  - 2. God's justice is also seen in our salvation.
  - \*Because of God's justice, He does not simply overlook our sin.
  - Romans 3:26: It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

- B. In praising God for His judgment, God's justice in judgment is emphasized.
  - ❖God is just because our sin is punished.
  - God justifies us based on faith in Christ.
  - ❖If God declared us righteous without our sin being punished, then He would not be just.
  - ❖Revelation 17-18 emphasizes the justice of God.

- C. God is also praised for His character.
  - \*Revelation 19:1: After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God."

- C. God is also praised for His character.
  - 1. Through Christ, God has provided salvation for believers.
  - The salvation of a believer is eternally secure.
  - 2. God is praised for His great glory.
  - Scripture constantly reveals God's glory and puts great value on it.

- C. God is also praised for His character.
  - 3. God is praised for His great power.
  - \*The word "Almighty" in verse 6 is a word for having all power (omnipotent).
  - \*The destruction of Babylon, the greatest empire the world will ever see, is one demonstration of God's great power.

C. God is also praised for His character.

❖Isaiah 40:15: Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like

fine dust.

- D. God is praised as King of the universe.
  - Christ is about to return to earth as the conquering King.
  - Revelation 11:15: Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."

- A. After receiving these revelations, John mistakenly began to worship the angel who showed them to him.
  - \*Revelation 19:10: Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God." For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

- B. The angel maintained his place as a servant of God.
  - Sundoulos (fellow servant) = sun (with)
    + doulos (servant)
  - This word refers to a servant on an equal level with another servant.
  - Angels are mentioned often and very involved in the events of Revelation, but they are not the main focus.

- C. This reminder to worship God would be significant for the churches in <u>Asia Minor</u>.
  - ♦ Colossians 2:18-19: Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

- C. This reminder to worship God would be significant for the churches in <u>Asia Minor</u>.
  - Some in Colossae were tempted to turn their focus from Christ to things of lesser importance.
  - ❖Sometimes even good things can distract us from what is most important.
  - Ultimately all of Scripture should point us to God, and God alone deserves our worship and praise.

## Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- o Revelation 19 reveals God's character:
  - o True
  - oJust
  - o Salvation
  - o Glory
  - o Power/Almighty
  - o King
  - Worthy of worship

# Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- Worship comes from "worthship,"
   proclaiming the worth of something.
- As we see God's attributes revealed, we should value Him above all else and worship Him alone.
- We should glorify God for His character and works, including His righteous judgment.

#### NEXTTIME: REVELATION 19:7-9

• Marriage Supper of the Lamb